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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

AT&T CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

DATAWAY INC. and dba DATAWAY
DESIGNS,

Defendants.

AND RELATED COUNTERCLAIM.

Case No. C07-02440 EDL

OPPOSITION OF PLAINTIFF AT&T
CORPORATION TO MOTION OF
DEFENDANT DATAWAY INC. and dba
DATAWAY DESIGNS FOR ORDER
COMPELLING FURTHER RESPONSES
TO REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF
DOCUMENTS, ELECTRONICALLY
STORED INFORMATION AND
TANGIBLE THINGS, OR ENTERING
ONTO LAND, FOR INSPECTION AND
OTHER PURPOSES; REQUEST FOR
AWARD OF ATTORNEY'S FEES AND
EXPENSES AGAINST DATAWAY INC.
AND ANNE-LEITH MATLOCK,
JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY, IN THE
SUM OF \$5,500.00; DECLARATION OF
TIMOTHY CARL AIRES

[F.R.C.P., Rule 34]

DATE: May 20, 2008
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
CTRM: E, 15th Floor

Plaintiff AT&T Corporation hereby submits its opposition to the motion of Defendant Dataway Inc. and dba Dataway Designs for order compelling further responses to requests for production of documents; and its request for award of attorney's fees and expenses against Dataway Inc. and Anne-Leith Matlock, jointly and severally, in the sum of \$5,500.00, as follows:

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OPPOSITION MEMORANDUM

1
2
3 1. KEY ISSUES.
4

5 The moving papers, after all of the court-ordered deletions from the record, and the
6 moving party's amendments and corrections, were not served until April 22, 2008 – less than
7 35 days prior to the hearing. The motion is not timely.

8 The moving papers do not include copies of the requests and responses as exhibits.
9 As such, the dispute cannot be properly analyzed.

10 There is a suggestion in the moving papers that the responses were not initially timely
11 served. The suggestion is false. The requests were served by mail on January 17, 2008.
12 Responses were served by mail on February 19, 2008.^{1/} February 16, 2008 was a Saturday.
13 February 17, 2008 was a Sunday. February 18, 2008 was a federal holiday. The responses
14 were timely served under F.R.C.P., Rules 5 and 6.
15

16 2. STATEMENT OF FACTS.
17

18 AT&T Corporation is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State
19 of New York with its principal place of business located at 1 AT&T Way, Bedminster, New
20 Jersey and authorized to do business in the State of California and is a common carrier
21 providing telecommunications services under published tariffs.

22 Dataway Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of
23 California with its principal place of business within this district and located at 180 Redwood
24 Street, San Francisco, California 94102 and doing business as Dataway Designs.

25 This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331, 1332 and
26 1337. Further, venue is proper under Title 28 U.S.C. §1391(a)(2).
27

28 ^{1/}All relevant documents, which are not privileged or otherwise protected, have been produced in
connection with a Rule 26(a) disclosure and a Rule 26(e) supplemental disclosure.

1 AT&T Tariff 30, Section 5, "Casual Calling Services", permits callers to access
2 AT&T's switched network for completion of their state-to-state and international dial station
3 calls by dialing carrier access code, 1010288. AT&T Tariff 30 is filed with the Federal
4 Communications Commission (the "FCC") under 47 C.F.R. §61.19.

5 On July 24, 2006, the telephone system owned and operated by Dataway was allegedly
6 compromised by an unauthorized third party accessing the AT&T Network (Legacy T) by
7 dialing carrier access code 1010288 which created an entirely new account for Dataway. No
8 unauthorized changes to a subscriber's telephone service were made by AT&T, or any other
9 carrier. The calls made on July 24, 2006 were not the responsibility of AT&T, but rather a
10 security failure on the part of Dataway. AT&T did not contract to, or otherwise had a duty
11 to, prevent access through the telephone system owned and operated by Dataway to the
12 AT&T Network (Legacy T) by dialing carrier access code 1010288.

13 Dataway was billed for the charges incurred when its telephone system was allegedly
14 compromised on July 24, 2006 by a written invoice. AT&T provided telecommunications
15 services to Dataway pursuant to AT&T Tariff F.C.C. No. 30 which makes Dataway liable
16 for the payment of charges for calls placed using its system through AT&T Network (Legacy
17 T) by dialing carrier access code 1010288. These charges amount to \$11,534.67 and were
18 included on an invoice presented to Dataway. Pursuant to AT&T Tariff F.C.C. No. 30,
19 payment was due upon presentation of the invoice. There is now due and owing from
20 Dataway to AT&T the sum of \$11,534.67, together with prejudgment interest.

21
22 3. THE REQUEST FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES FAILS TO
23 COMPLY WITH LOCAL RULE 37-3.

24
25 Local Rule 37-3, in part provides:

26 When, in connection with a dispute about disclosure or
27 discovery, a party moves for an award of attorney fees or other
28 form of sanction under FRCivP 37, the motion must:

1 ...

2 (b) Be accompanied by competent declarations which:

3 (1) Set forth the facts and circumstances that support the motion;

4 (2) Describe in detail the efforts made by the moving party to
5 secure compliance without intervention by the Court; and

6 (3) If attorney fees or other costs or expenses are requested,
7 itemize with particularity the otherwise unnecessary expenses,
8 including attorney fees, directly caused by the alleged violation
9 or breach, and set forth an appropriate justification for any
10 attorney-fee hourly rate claimed.

11 The moving papers are devoid of any competent declaration which meets the
12 requirements of Local Rule 37-3. Even if the Court were to dispense with the Local Rule 37-
13 3 requirements, the fee request is excessive given the simple nature of the motion and the
14 absence of any detailed legal analysis or factual discussion.

15
16 4. DEFENSE COUNSEL NEVER RESPONDED SUBSTANTIVELY TO
17 PLAINTIFF'S POSITION ON THE OBJECTIONS - THE "MEET AND CONFER"
18 RECORD HAS NOT BEEN PORTRAYED ACCURATELY OR FAIRLY.

19
20 The burden rested with defense counsel to demonstrate an absence of merit to the
21 objections and then independently to demonstrate good cause for the production of the items
22 sought by a showing that actual and substantial prejudice will flow from the denial of
23 discovery. [*In re Sulfuric Acid Antitrust Litig.*, 231 F.R.D. 331, 333 (ND IL 2005) ; see
24 *Packman v. Chicago Tribune Co.*, 267 F.3d 628, 647 (7th Cir. 2001).] Defense counsel
25 never addressed such factors as timeliness, good cause, utility and materiality. [*CSC*
26 *Holdings, Inc. v. Redis*, 309 F.3d 988, 992 (7th Cir. 2002).] Defense counsel never address
27
28

1 the issues of undue burden and cost in light of the overbreadth of the requests.^{2/} Indeed,
 2 defense counsel never made any effort to substantively meet the objections interposed to the
 3 production requests at issue.^{3/} The motion should be denied on this ground alone.

4 The moving papers do not include a number of e-mails sent by Plaintiff's counsel in
 5 furtherance of "meet and confer" efforts. On February 25, 2008, Plaintiff's counsel wrote
 6 by e-mail and advised defense counsel as to the appropriate protocol for "meeting and
 7 conferring". Defense counsel never substantively replied to this "meet and confer" effort.^{4/}
 8 On March 31, 2008, Plaintiff's counsel inquired by e-mail as to whether defense counsel
 9 intended to respond substantively on the discovery dispute. Defense counsel never
 10 substantively replied to this "meet and confer" effort. On April 1, 2008, Plaintiff's counsel
 11 laid out in an e-mail why the production requests were properly objectionable. Defense
 12 counsel never substantively replied to this "meet and confer" effort. In short, defense
 13 counsel's portrayal of the "meet and confer" record is entirely misleading. The motion
 14 should be denied on this ground alone.

15
 16 5. GOOD CAUSE DOES NOT WARRANT THE DISCOVERY SOUGHT.

17
 18
 19 ^{2/}Unless the party seeking discovery meets its burden, a party need not provide discovery of
 20 electronically-stored information "from sources that the party identifies as not reasonably
 accessible because of undue burden or cost." [F.R.C.P., Rule 26(b)(2)(B)]

21 ^{3/}Defense counsel's "meet and confer" declaration does not satisfy the requirements of F.R.C.P.,
 22 Rule 37(a). [*Robinson v. Potter*, 453 F.3d 990, 995 (8th Cir. 2006) (Motion to compel properly
 23 denied where moving party did not show lawyer had attempted to confer in good faith to resolve
 24 discovery dispute before filing motion.); *Soto v. City of Concord* 162 F.R.D. 603, 623 (ND CA
 1995) (Moving party must attempt to have a real exchange of ideas and opinions.); *Tri-Star*
 25 *Pictures, Inc. v. Unger* 171 F.R.D. 94, 99 (SD NY 1997) (Movant must detail efforts to confer
 and explain why they proved useless.); *Hoelzel v. First Select Corp.* 214 F.R.D. 634, 636 (D CO
 2003) (Single e-mail message not a meaningful meet and confer.).]

26 ^{4/}Defense counsel claims that a letter was mailed on February 29, 2008. The letter was not
 27 received until late March, 2008. The letter dated February 29, 2008 was not faxed or e-mailed
 28 which has been the norm in this case. In any event, the letter dated February 29, 2008 does not
 substantively address any of the discovery issues in dispute.

1 A party seeking the production of documents under Rule 34 must demonstrate good
 2 cause for the production of the items sought by a showing that actual and substantial
 3 prejudice will flow from the denial of discovery. [*In re Sulfuric Acid Antitrust Litig.* 231
 4 *F.R.D.* 331, 333 (ND IL 2005); see *Packman v. Chicago Tribune Co.* 267 F.3d 628, 647 (7th
 5 *Cir.* 2001).] Actual and substantial prejudice can never be shown where a party has no valid
 6 claim or defense to assert in the action. For the reasons which follow, good cause does not
 7 warrant the discovery sought by the pending motion.

8
 9 (A) A TELEPHONE CUSTOMER IS LIABLE FOR ALL LONG-DISTANCE
 10 CALLS MADE FROM ITS ON-PREMISES SYSTEM, REGARDLESS OF
 11 WHETHER SUCH CALLS WERE AUTHORIZED OR FRAUDULENT.

12
 13 Through the complaint in this action, AT&T seeks to recover \$11,534.67, together
 14 with prejudgment interest of \$5.69 per day from September 25, 2006 using the rate of 18%
 15 per annum pursuant to AT&T Tariff F.C.C. No. 30, Section 3.5.4, for calls placed through
 16 the telephone system owned and operated by Dataway to the AT&T Network (Legacy T) by
 17 dialing carrier access code 1010288.

18 A telephone customer is liable for *all* long-distance calls made from its on-premises
 19 system^{5/}, regardless of whether such calls were authorized or fraudulent. [*AT & T Corp. v.*
 20 *Community Health Group*, 931 F. Supp. 719, 723 (S.D.Cal. 1995) (*Emphasis in original.*).]
 21 The presence of a remote access mechanism, including an off premises computer, does not
 22 affect the "origination" determination; calls still "originate" from a customer's system even
 23 if access to the system was gained from a remote location. [*AT & T Corp. v. Community*
 24 *Health Group*, 931 F. Supp. 719, 723 (S.D.Cal. 1995).]

25
 26 ^{5/}A PBX system is "a customer-provided private switching system used to facilitate the
 27 transmission of telephone calls to, from, and within a place of business. It is equipment added to
 28 the public telephone network by a customer ... the use of which requires neither the knowledge
 nor approval of AT & T." [*AT&T v. Jiffy Lube Int'l, Inc.* (D. Md. 1993) 813 F. Supp. 1164, 1165,
fn. 1.]

1 The FCC has held that a party may become an AT&T customer by ordering services
 2 in both the more traditionally understood manner or by unauthorized usage involving
 3 incoming 800 service calls or LDMTS^{6/} calls and/or services that originate at the customer's
 4 numbers. [See, e.g. *In the matter of Chartways Tech., Inc. v. AT&T*, 6 F.C.C.R. 2951, 2954
 5 (1991) (FCC ruled that a customer was responsible for all of the charges originating at its
 6 number or numbers, regardless of claims that those charges may or may not have been
 7 unauthorized.).]^{7/}

8 In the case of *FCC v. W.C.N. Listeners Guild*, 450 U.S. 582 (1981), the Supreme
 9 Court followed its previously enunciated rule that "the construction of a statute by those
 10 charged with its execution should be followed unless there are compelling indications that
 11 it is wrong...." [*FCC v. W.C.N. Listeners Guild*, 450 U.S. 582, 598 (1981).] Therefore, this
 12 court must therefore give deference to the rule enunciated by the FCC that a customer is
 13 responsible for all of the charges originating at its telephone number or numbers, regardless
 14 of whether that party claims that those charges were not authorized. In fact, other courts
 15 when presented with this identical situation have followed this rule.

16 For example, in *AT&T v. New York City Human Resource Administration*, 833
 17 F.Supp. 962 (1993), the court was asked to rule on AT&T's motion for summary judgment
 18 seeking payment of LDMTS services which the New York City Human Resources
 19 Administration and the City of New York claimed should not be paid because they were the
 20 result of unauthorized third party toll fraud. The court concluded that the defendants were
 21 in fact customers of AT&T notwithstanding that the toll calls were fraudulent and held that

23 ^{6/}LDMTS stands for "long distance message telecommunication service". [*AT&T v. New York*
 24 *City Human Resource Administration*, 736 F.Supp. 496, 497 (1990).]

25 ^{7/}The rule that all calls, fraudulent or not, originating from a number and utilizing AT&T's
 26 LDMTS calls and/or services makes that party a customer and obligates them to pay those
 27 charges has been applied in numerous cases, including *AT&T Corp. v. Fleming and Berkeley*,
 28 *131 F.3d 145* (1997), *AT&T v. Intrend Ropes & Twines, Inc.*, 944 F.Supp 701 (1996), *AT&T*
Corp. v. Community Health Group, 931 F.Supp 719 (1995), *AT&T v. Jiffy Lube International*,
Inc., 813 F.Supp 1164 (1993) and *Industrial Leasing Corporation v. GTE Northwest*
Incorporated, 818 F.Supp 1371 (1992).

1 AT&T was entitled to summary judgment. [*AT&T v. New York City Human Resource*
2 *Administration*, 833 F.Supp. 962, 973 (1993).]

3 In *AT & T Corp. v. Community Health Group*, 931 F. Supp. 719 (S.D.Cal. 1995), the
4 court was faced with a situation almost identical to that presented here. In that case, the court
5 granted AT&T's motion for summary judgment, finding that Community Health Group was
6 liable for payment of LDMTS charges, even though those charges were the result of
7 unauthorized and fraudulent usage of their telephone system. The court noted that
8 Community Health Group was a "customer" even though it did not affirmatively order
9 AT&T LDMTS and had pre-subscribed for long distance service with an entirely different
10 carrier. The court concluded that all of the applicable authority clearly supported AT&T's
11 position that it was entitled to summary judgment. [*AT & T Corp. v. Community Health*
12 *Group*, 931 F. Supp. 719, 722-725 (S.D.Cal. 1995).]

13 Since there is no dispute that the calls originated from Dataway's numbers, the fact
14 that Dataway alleges that they were unauthorized and fraudulent is simply irrelevant to the
15 disposition of this claim. Although the use of those numbers may have in fact been
16 unauthorized, the law is clear that the Dataway is and was, for the purposes of this matter,
17 a customer of AT&T and is required to pay the charges. [See e.g., *AT&T Corp v. Fleming*
18 *and Berkeley*, 131 F.3d 145 (1997), *AT&T v. Intrend Ropes & Twines, Inc.*, 944 F.Supp. 701
19 (1996), *AT&T Corp. v. Community Health Group*, 931 F.Supp. 719 (1995), *AT&T v. Jiffy*
20 *Lube International, Inc.*, 813 F.Supp 1164 (1993), *Industrial Leasing Corporation v. GTE*
21 *Northwest, Inc.*, 818 F.Supp. 1372 (1992) and *AT&T v. New York City Human Resources*
22 *Administration*, 833 F.Supp 962 (1993).]

23 "[T]he repeated occurrence of remote access fraud does not create a general duty on
24 AT&T's part to warn its LDMTS customers the possibility of unauthorized access to their
25 PBX because the applicable tariff does not impose such a duty." [*AT&T v. New York City*
26 *Human Resources Administration*, 833 F.Supp 962, 977 (1993).] There is no evidence that
27 can be offered by Dataway that AT&T was responsible for the installation and maintenance

28 ///

1 of the former's telephone system. In fact, exactly the opposite is true. Therefore, there is no
 2 duty owed by AT&T to Dataway to prevent the toll fraud alleged by Dataway.

3 Actual and substantial prejudice can never be shown because Dataway does not have
 4 a defense to assert in this action. Good cause does not warrant the discovery sought by the
 5 pending motion.

6
 7 (B) IRRESPECTIVE OF THE FILED RATE DOCTRINE, ONE, SOME OR ALL
 8 OF THE CLAIMS IN THE COUNTERCLAIM LACK MERIT.

9
 10 (1) ONE OR MORE ELEMENTS OF THE COUNTERCLAIM FOR
 11 BREACH OF EXPRESS CONTRACT CANNOT BE PROVED.

12
 13 The first claim for relief in the counterclaim is entitled, Breach of Express Contract,
 14 and contains no allegation that any damages flowed from the alleged breach. [*Counterclaim*
 15 (*Docket No. 31*), pp. 16:20-17:14, ¶¶15-19.]

16 In order to prevail in an action for breach of contract, the plaintiff must establish: (1)
 17 the existence of an enforceable agreement obligating the defendant to act or to forebear from
 18 acting; (2) the plaintiff's performance of all obligations required on its part by the agreement,
 19 except those excused by the defendant's breach; (3) the defendant's breach of the agreement
 20 by an inexcusable failure to act or failure to forebear from acting; and (4) damages to the
 21 plaintiff caused by the defendant's breach of the agreement. [*Reichert v. General Insurance*
 22 *Co.*, 68 Cal.2d 822, 830 (1968); *Acoustics, Inc. v. Trepte Constr. Co.*, 14 Cal.App.3d 887,
 23 913 (1971).]

24 Neither AT&T, nor its predecessor in interest, contracted to, or otherwise had a duty
 25 to, prevent access through the telephone system owned and operated by Dataway to the
 26 AT&T Network (Legacy T) by dialing carrier access code 1010288. No damages for which
 27 the law provides relief have been alleged. No evidence exists that any damages for which
 28 the law provides relief have been suffered. In the absence of some damage claim cognizable

1 under the applicable law, and supported by some evidence, good cause supporting the
2 discovery sought can never be shown.

3
4 (2) ONE OR MORE ELEMENTS OF THE COUNTERCLAIM FOR
5 BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT CANNOT BE PROVED
6

7 Damages are an essential element of a claim for breach of contract.^{8/} [*Reichert v.*
8 *General Insurance Co.*, 68 Cal.2d 822, 830 (1968); *Acoustics, Inc. v. Trepte Constr. Co.*, 14
9 Cal.App.3d 887, 913 (1971).] The second claim for relief is entitled, Breach of Oral
10 Contract, and contains no allegation that any damages flowed from the alleged breach.
11 [*Counterclaim (Docket No. 31)*, pp. 17:18-18:4, ¶¶20-23.]

12 The second claim for relief simply alleges "waiver". Waiver is the intentional
13 relinquishment of a known right after knowledge of the facts. [*Roesch v. De Mota*, 24 Cal.2d
14 563, 572 (1944).] A "waiver" may be an affirmative defense under the right set of facts, but
15 an allegation of "waiver" does not constitute a claim for affirmative relief. [*Kern Sunset Oil*
16 *Co. v. Good Roads Oil Co.* (1931) 214 Cal. 435, 440-441; *see also* CACI No. 336.]
17 Therefore, it is not surprising that the claim for relief is entitled, Breach of Oral Contract,
18 contains no allegation that any damages flowed from the alleged breach. In the absence of
19 some damage claim cognizable under the applicable law, and supported by some evidence,
20 good cause supporting the discovery sought can never be shown.

21 ///

22 ///

24
25 ^{8/}For the breach of an obligation arising from contract, the measure of damages ... is the amount
26 which will compensate the party aggrieved for all the detriment proximately caused thereby, or
27 which, in the ordinary course of things, would be likely to result therefrom." [*California Civil*
28 *Code §3300*.] "Whatever the proper measure of damages may be, in a given case, the recovery
therefor is still subject to the fundamental rule that damages which are speculative, remote,
imaginary, contingent, or merely possible cannot serve as a legal basis for recovery." [*Leuter v.*
State of California, 94 Cal.App.4th 1285, 1302 (2002).]

(3) ONE OR MORE ELEMENTS OF THE CLAIM FOR FRAUDULENT
INDUCEMENT OF CONTRACT CANNOT BE PROVED.

The third claim for relief is incoherent. At best, like the second claim for relief, it merely sets up an affirmative defense. [*California Civil Code* §1572; *Grady v. Easley*, 45 Cal.App.2d 632, 634 (1941); *see also* CACI No. 335.] Fraud exists in two forms: (1) As an action for damages based upon fraud and deceit^{9/}; and, alternatively, (2) As a defense to the enforcement of a contract. [*California Civil Code* §§1572 and 1709.]^{10/} Fraud is a defense where its presence vitiates consent. [*California Civil Code* §§1550 and 1572.]

No damages for which the law provides relief have been alleged. No evidence exists that any damages for which the law provides relief have been suffered.^{11/} In the absence of some damage claim cognizable under the applicable law, and supported by some evidence, good cause supporting the discovery sought can never be shown.

(4) ONE OR MORE ELEMENTS OF THE CLAIM FOR "SLAMMING"
CANNOT BE PROVED

^{9/}The necessary elements of a claim for fraud are: (1) misrepresentation (false representation, concealment, or nondisclosure); (2) knowledge of falsity (scienter); (3) intent to defraud, i.e., to induce reliance; (4) justifiable reliance; and (5) resulting damage. [*Molko v. Holy Spirit*, 46 Cal.3d 1092, 1108 (1988).] Every element of a claim for fraud must be alleged in full, factually and specifically. [*Federal Rules of Civil Procedure*, Rule 9(b).] Damages allegedly resulting from fraud must also be pleaded with particularity. [*Nagy v. Nagy*, 210 Cal.App.3d 1262, 1268-1269 (1989) ("An allegation of a definite amount of damage is essential to stating a cause of action [for fraud].").]

^{10/}Part 2 of Division 3 of the California *Civil Code*, commencing with §1549, describes the nature of a contract — The defense of fraud can be found here. Part 3 of Division 3 of the California *Civil Code*, commencing with §1708, describes obligations imposed by law — The action for fraud and deceit can be found here.

^{11/}Fraud and deceit does not exist in a vacuum. [*City of Los Angeles v. Superior Court*, 51 Cal.2d 423, 433 (1959); *Hill v. Wrather*, 158 Cal.App.2d 818, 825 (1958) ("[F]raud without damage or injury is not remediable. Deception which does not cause loss is not a fraud in the legal sense.").]

1 In order to prevent telecommunications carriers from making unauthorized changes
 2 to subscribers' telephone service — a practice known as "slamming" — the
 3 Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "1996 Telecommunications Act") makes it unlawful
 4 for telecommunications carriers to "submit or execute a change in a subscriber's selection of
 5 a provider of telephone exchange service or telephone toll service except in accordance with
 6 such verification procedures as the Commission shall prescribe." [47 U.S.C. §258(a); *AT&T*
 7 *Corp. v. FCC* 323 F.3d 1081, 1082 (D.C. Cir. 2003).]

8 The evidence is undisputed that on July 24, 2006, the telephone system owned and
 9 operated by Dataway was allegedly compromised by an unauthorized intervening third party
 10 accessing the AT&T Network (Legacy T) by dialing carrier access code 1010288 which
 11 created an entirely new account for Dataway. No unauthorized changes to a subscriber's
 12 telephone service were made by AT&T, or its predecessor in interest. The calls made on July
 13 24, 2006 were not the responsibility of AT&T, but rather a security failure on the part of
 14 Dataway. Insufficient evidence exists which supports the "slamming" claim. In the absence
 15 of some damage claim cognizable under the applicable law, and supported by some evidence,
 16 good cause supporting the discovery sought can never be shown.

17
 18 (5) ONE OR MORE ELEMENTS OF THE CLAIM FOR "TORTIOUS
 19 INTERFERENCE" CANNOT BE PROVED
 20

21 The tort cause of action for interference with a contract^{12/} does not lie against a party
 22 to the contract. [*Applied Equipment Corp. v. Litton Saudi Arabia Ltd.*, 7 Cal.4th 503, 514
 23 (1994).] The fifth claim for relief fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted
 24

25 ^{12/}"The elements which a plaintiff must plead to state the cause of action for intentional
 26 interference with contractual relations are (1) a valid contract between plaintiff and a third party;
 27 (2) defendant's knowledge of this contract; (3) defendant's intentional acts designed to induce a
 28 breach or disruption of the contractual relationship; (4) actual breach or disruption of the
 contractual relationship; and (5) resulting damage." [*Pacific Gas & Electric Co. v. Bear Stearns*
& Co., 50 Cal.3d 1118, 1126 (1990).]

inasmuch as the only contractual relationship alleged throughout the counterclaim is between AT&T, and its predecessor in interest, on the one hand, and Dataway, on the other hand. Moreover, the claim for relief does not plead resulting damages. In the absence of some damage claim cognizable under the applicable law, and supported by some evidence, good cause supporting the discovery sought can never be shown.

(C) BECAUSE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AT&T AND DATAWAY IN THIS CONTEXT ARISES OUT OF INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC, INTERSTATE, INTEREXCHANGE DIRECT-DIAL SERVICES TO WHICH THE END-USER OBTAINED ACCESS BY DIALING THE CARRIER'S ACCESS CODE, THE "FILED RATE" DOCTRINE STILL APPLIES – THE STATE LAW COUNTERCLAIMS ARE PREEMPTED.

Even assuming that one, some or all of the claims in the counterclaim are well-pleaded, have evidentiary proof, and support a claim for damages compensable under applicable law, the four state law counterclaims are barred by the "Filed Rate" Doctrine.^{13/}

As noted by the Supreme Court in *AT&T v. Central Office Telephone Inc.*, 524 U.S. 214 (1998):

"Section 203(a) of the Communications Act^{14/} requires every common carrier to file with the FCC "schedules," i.e., tariffs, "showing all charges" and "showing the classifications, practices, and regulations affecting such charges." 47 U.S.C.

^{13/}To paraphrase, Mark Twain the reports of the death of the Filed Rate Doctrine are greatly exaggerated. The Filed Rate Doctrine remains viable in a variety of contexts after passage of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. [See, e.g., *Union Telephone Co. v. Qwest Corporation*, 495 F.3d 1187 (10th Cir. 2007); *Qwest Corp. v. AT&T Corp.*, 479 F.3d 1206 (10th Cir. 2007); *Dreamscape Design, Inc. v. Affinity Network, Inc.*, 414 F.3d 665 (7th Cir. 2005); *Boomer v. AT & T Corporation*, 309 F.3d 404 (7th Cir. 2002).]

^{14/}47 U.S.C. §203(a) has never been repealed.

§203(a). Section 203(c) makes it unlawful for a carrier to “extend to any person any privileges or facilities in such communication, or employ or enforce any classifications, regulations, or practices affecting such charges, except as specified in such schedule.” §203(c). These provisions are modeled after similar provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act (ICA) and share its goal of preventing unreasonable and discriminatory charges. MCI Telecommunications Corp. v. American Telephone & Telegraph Co., 512 U.S. 218, 229-230 (1994). Accordingly, the century-old “filed-rate doctrine” associated with the ICA tariff provisions applies to the Communications Act as well.”

[*AT&T v. Central Office Telephone Inc.*, 524 U.S. 214, 221-222 (1998).]

The 1996 Telecommunications Act merely gives the FCC the authority to forbear from regulatory measures determined to be unnecessary to protect consumers. [47 U.S.C. §160(a); *Ting v. AT & T*, 319 F.3d 1126, 1131-1132 (9th Cir.2003).]

Notwithstanding the statutory authority under the 1996 Telecommunications Act to stand down from requiring tariffs, the FCC has determined that it is in the public interest to continue to require the filing of tariffs by nondominant carriers with respect to the provision of international and domestic, interstate, interexchange services through dial-around 1+ services. In this regard, 47 C.F.R. §61.19(b) provides:

Carriers that are nondominant in the provision of international and domestic, interstate, interexchange services are permitted to file tariffs for dial-around 1+ services. For the purposes of this paragraph, dial-around 1+ calls are those calls made by accessing the interexchange carrier through the use of that carrier's carrier access code.

[47 C.F.R. §61.19(b).]

1 By order of the FCC, AT&T is a non-dominant carrier. [*In re Motion of AT&T Corp.*
 2 *to be Reclassified as a Non-Dominant Carrier, Order in FCC 95-427, para. 1 (Oct. 23,*
 3 *1995).*] As such, AT&T is permitted to file tariffs governing the provision of international
 4 and domestic, interstate, interexchange services for dial-around 1+ services. AT&T has filed
 5 such a tariff in the form of Tariff No. 30 which governs calls placed through the AT&T
 6 Network (Legacy T) by dialing carrier access code 1010288. The filing of Tariff No. 30
 7 invokes the "Filed Rate" Doctrine with respect to any state law claim, whether sounding in
 8 tort or in contract, arising out of international and domestic, interstate, interexchange direct-
 9 dial services to which the end-user obtained access by dialing the carrier's access code.
 10 Hence, notwithstanding Dataway's suggestion to the contrary, the "Filed Rate" Doctrine still
 11 applies to the relationship at issue here. As such, the state law counterclaims are preempted.
 12 Good cause supporting the discovery sought can never be shown.

13
 14 (D) THE SPECIFIC DISCOVERY REQUESTS ARE OVERBROAD, WILL
 15 NEVER LEAD TO THE DISCOVERY OF ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE OR SEEK
 16 PRIVILEGED MATTER.
 17

18 No. 1: All documents, electronic data, and electronic data, and electronic media
 19 concerning the Defendant including, but not limited to, any and all contracts, bills or
 20 interoffice correspondence, for any and all accounts during the relevant period.

21 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
 22 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
 23 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
 24 evidence beyond the invoices which the defense already has in its possession.

25 No. 2: All communications between you and the Defendant during the relevant
 26 period.

27 ///

28 ///

1 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
2 "relevant time period", this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
3 evidence.

4 No. 3: All communications between you and any person or entity concerning the
5 Defendant during the relevant period.

6 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
7 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
8 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
9 evidence.

10 No. 4: All documents, electronic data, electronic media concerning the Defendant's
11 complaint to you regarding bills received by Defendant.

12 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its obvious attempt to get attorney client
13 communications and attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery
14 of any admissible evidence.

15 No. 5: All communications between you and the Defendant concerning the fraud
16 complaint filed with you by Defendant.

17 Reasons to deny discovery: This request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any
18 admissible evidence.

19 No. 6: All communications between you and any person or entity concerning the fraud
20 complaint filed with you by Defendant.

21 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its obvious attempt to get attorney client
22 communications and attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery
23 of any admissible evidence.

24 No. 7: All documents, electronic data, and electronic media reflecting, establishing
25 or concerning the relationship between Aires Law Firm and the Bethune & Associates as it
26 relates to Defendant and the AT&T accounts assigned to Defendant.

27 ///

28 ///

1 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its obvious attempt to get attorney client
2 communications and attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery
3 of any admissible evidence.

4 No. 8: All communications between and among Aires Law Firm and any person
5 employed by or associated with Bethune & Associates as it relates to Defendant.

6 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its obvious attempt to get attorney client
7 communications and attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery
8 of any admissible evidence.

9 No. 9: All documents, electronic data, and electronic media concerning the
10 investigation of Defendant's fraud complaint with the F.C.C, C.P.U.C. and/or any division
11 of office of Plaintiff.

12 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
13 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
14 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
15 evidence.

16 No. 10: All communications between and among Plaintiff and any person or entity,
17 including governmental entities referred to above, concerning the fraud complaint filed by
18 the Defendant.

19 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
20 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
21 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
22 evidence.

23 No. 11: All documents, electronic data, and electronic media containing, reflecting
24 or concerning AT&T's policies, procedures, and protocol for resolving fraud complaints filed
25 by AT&T customers.

26 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
27 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
28 ///

1 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
2 evidence.

3 No. 12: All recordings of telephonic communications between you and the Defendant,
4 its agents and employees during the relevant period concerning its account, its fraud
5 complaint, or any other matter relevant to this litigation.

6 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
7 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
8 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
9 evidence.

10 No. 13: All DOCUMENTS, ELECTRONIC DATA, and ELECTRONIC DATA, and
11 ELECTRONIC MEDIA, notes, memoranda, correspondence, e-mails and other documents
12 regarding Defendant or the instant litigation, including, without limitation, documents
13 generated during the course of any conversation or meeting.

14 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
15 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
16 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
17 evidence.

18 No. 14: All DOCUMENTS, ELECTRONIC DATA, and ELECTRONIC MEDIA of
19 any nature or kind relating to Plaintiff's cause of action or any defense asserted or alleged
20 by Defendant.

21 Reasons to deny discovery: Notwithstanding its overbreadth due to the definition of
22 "relevant time period", and its obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and
23 attorney work product, this request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible
24 evidence.

25 No. 15: All DOCUMENTS, ELECTRONIC DATA, and ELECTRONIC MEDIA to
26 be used for trial for impeachment or other purpose.

27 This request is an obvious attempt to get attorney client communications and attorney
28 work product. This request cannot possibly lead to the discovery of any admissible evidence.

6. AN AWARD OF ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES ARE WARRANTED ON
THIS RECORD

F.R.C.P., Rule 37 provides for the recovery attorney's fees and expenses in connection with discovery motions. On this record, an award of attorney's fees and expenses against Dataway Inc. and Anne-Leith Matlock, jointly and severally, in the sum of \$5,500.00 is warranted as the pending motion should never have been presented.

7. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the motion of Defendant Dataway Inc. and dba Dataway Designs for order compelling further responses to requests for production of documents, electronically stored information and tangible things, or entering onto land, for inspection and other purposes should be denied.

DATED: May 6, 2008

AIRES LAW FIRM

By: 

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